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SUBJECT: CYPRIOT RESPONSE FORTHCOMING ON IRAN SANCTIONS /
UNSCR 1803

REF: SECSTATE 48615

In response to Reftel, Polchief on May 12 delivered UNSCR 1803-related non-paper and talking points to Multilateral Affairs officer Marios Kountarides, the Cypriot MFA's POC on sanctions. Kountarides welcomed our report and promised to study it carefully, calling it particularly timely, in light of a May 21 U.S.-EU terrorism meeting in Brussels that he planned to attend. Cyprus had fully implemented earlier Security Council resolutions on Iran, he claimed, and would do the same with 1803. Currently, however, the various RoC entities with equities in play -- to include the financial crimes unit MOKAS, Customs, Commerce, the Central Bank, Police, even the Labor Ministry -- were still gathering information. Kountarides's office would put together the Cypriot report, and he expected to submit it before the end of May.

SCHLICHER